

on account of which huge garbage is accumulated on these places and proper arrangements are not made for sanitation and maintenance thereof;

(b) whether such shortcomings have been found during Maha Kumbha in Allahabad also;

(c) whether Government would consider to formulate any long-term plan to do away with such mismanagement prevailing at religious/tourist places; and

(d) if so, by when;

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The maintenance of pilgrimage centres is looked after by the concerned local authority and State Governments. However, the overall view is that there is no degeneration in sanctity of tourist places/pilgrim centres only due to tourism.

(b) No complaint has been received on this account so far.

(c) Not needed at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Maintenance of historical monuments in Assam

83. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of historical monuments being preserved by ASI in Assam indicating present condition and nature of maintenance;

(b) the proposed action plan and target set to cover new sites including excavation work; and

(c) the specific plan, if any, to ensure spending ten per cent budgetary allocation in the North-East in terms of PM's special initiative for North-East?

[22 February, 2001] **RAJYA SABHA**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has declared 49 monuments to be of national importance in Assam. Details are available in the Parliament Library. The protected monuments are in a good state of preservation.

(b) The consideration of new sites/monuments for protection and excavations is a continuous process. During the current financial year, the following monuments/sites have been identified for carrying out scientific excavations in Assam:—

1. Sri Surya Pahar, District Goalpara.
2. Ahom Palace Talatal, Sibsagar
3. Maidam No. 2 at Chikedeve, Sibsagar

(c) The plan of activities in this regard include:—

1. Conservation, preservation and environmental development of monuments in North-East including Sikkim.
2. Scientific excavations
3. Epigraphical research
4. Financial assistance for unprotected monuments.

Eradi Tribunal

84. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Eradi Tribunal is functioning.

(b) whether it is a fact that the Tribunal is taking unusually long time; and

(c) by when the Tribunal is likely to finish its work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and